

SECRET

ILLEGIB

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chiefs, FBIS Field Bureaus

21 March 1955

FROM : Acting Chief, FBIS

SUBJECT : Letter of Instruction

FINAL

1. The Eighth Meeting of the BBC-FBIS Joint Coordination Committee was held in Washington on 16 March 1955. Much of the meeting was devoted to the coverage responsibilities of the two Services under the Reciprocal Arrangement, and the impending curtailment of BBC coverage because of budget cuts. FBI provided a formal statement of its requirements on the BBC in support of the present level of BBC monitoring. The Committee also adopted a Resolution to the effect that neither Service shall duplicate the other's coverage if such duplication in any way impairs its regularly allocated coverage under the Reciprocal Arrangement. Among other subjects discussed were the BBC's Baltic coverage, for which there are strong British and American requirements; delays in Okinawa-London communications; the need for expediting a statement of basic principles of monitoring; and the recent stationing of a Russian linguist with the FBIS at the London Bureau, which BBC says has worked out entirely satisfactorily. [redacted]

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2. The Chief FBIS departed 20 March on a field inspection trip to the West Coast and all overseas Field Bureaus. He was accompanied to the West Coast Bureau by [redacted] Head, BBC Monitoring Service. [redacted]

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3. Following an inquiry from the DCI as to why FBIS did not provide a copy of Zhukov's speech on 22 February in observance of the Soviet Armed Forces Day, a suggestion was made to the BBC that it might be possible under the terms of its arrangements with Reuters to protest non-receipt of this important speech on the TASS Hellscriber services to which Reuters is a subscriber and BBC in effect is a sub-subscriber. The speech was not broadcast. [redacted]

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4. Wire services:

a. Daily roundups of radio reaction to the SEATO Council meeting in Bangkok were filed to the UN/I at Bangkok for use in briefing the UN delegation. [redacted]

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b. Limited FBIS wire service via the Pentagon Signal Center to the US-UN Delegation at New York was discontinued after one week's operation, at the request of Ambassador Lodge. Special selections are now being forwarded by mail from State Department. Interference with State's wire to the UN, and high cost of leasing a special wire are understood to be the reasons for the request to discontinue service. [redacted]

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c. The direct wire line from East Coast Bureau to VOA, Washington is in frequent use for transmitting live broadcasts to VOA. [redacted]

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5. Editorial highlights:

a. The decree of the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the Krushchev statistical report to the plenum, and reports on the USSR State Budget and the Supreme Soviet sessions were carried in full on the "B" Wire as well as in the Daily Report as soon as received. [redacted]

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b. Annual plan fulfillment reports from all Soviet Republics, except Latvia and the Khirgiz Republic, were published in full in the Daily Report. Plans for the two exceptions have not yet been broadcast. [redacted]

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c. Output of economic abstracts cards has averaged 6,000 per month since October. [redacted]

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d. Dissemination of material from the Communist clandestine "Free Greece" radio to non-governmental recipients in the unclassified Daily Report was discontinued in view of protests of the Greek Embassy to the State Department. [redacted]

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6. Communications:

a. A long standing communication problem relating to the transmission of flash information was resolved by receipt of permission from the Army to utilize "Operations Immediate" precedence from any FBIS bureau under appropriate conditions. [redacted] Appropriate instructions will be issued.

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b. In connection with an investigation by Office of Communications of alternate Okinawa communications circuits through USAF, the Army requested a documentation of all difficulties encountered by the FBIS Okinawa bureau with transmissions via ACPH, in the hope of rectifying these conditions and eliminating the need for supplementary services via USAF. [redacted]

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[redacted]
50X1

6. FBIS provided the following special services during the month:

a. A report on current broadcasting developments in the East European Satellites for ORT. [redacted]

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7. FBID provided the following special services during the month:

a. A report on current broadcasting developments in the East European Satellites for OTR. [redacted] 50X1

b. A detailed report on the sponsorship and apparent political leanings of Latin American broadcasting stations for USIA. [redacted] 50X1

c. A list of the names of all candidates in the Japanese Diet elections, for the Department of State. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

9. Mr. John McGruder of the Clark Committee of the Hoover Commission on Organization of the Executive branch of the Government visited the West Coast, Okinawa, and Tokyo Bureaus, on 4, 13, and 15 February. Colonel Dubbeldee of the same committee visited Frankfurt on 14 February and London on 25 February where he conferred with the Bureau Chiefs but did not visit the bureaus. [redacted] 50X1

10. According to a recent report, FBID was the source of approximately 10% of the items used in the finished intelligence produced by DI/I during 1954. For example, FBID information comprised nine per cent of information published in OCI Bailies during 1954; FBID was also the source of 14% of OCD biographic information. This showing was most favorable in comparison with other collection activities. [redacted] 50X1

11. [redacted] Chief Engineer, Okinawa Bureau, completed a survey of locations in Bangkok for emergency South East Asia coverage. Preliminary reports indicate that his mission was successfully accomplished. [redacted] 50X1

12. A letter was addressed to the Chairman FCC from the DI/CI requesting space and support for a one-man FBID cruising operation in San Juan, Puerto Rico. After FCC advised that the space which FBID anticipated using would not be available, a request was sent to G-2, Department of the Army, for permission to survey facilities in military installations in Puerto Rico for this purpose. [redacted] 50X1

13. Investigation of the possibility of the Government Printing Office assuming responsibility for publishing and disseminating the FBIS publication "Broadcasting Stations of the World" indicate that dissemination problems could be largely resolved, and cost could be substantially reduced. An effort to reach a conclusion in this matter will be made in March since a new edition is virtually ready for publication. [redacted] 50X1

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14. An entirely new and very satisfactory way of copying International Morse code has been developed by the CGS Laboratories, Inc., of Stamford, Connecticut. It consists of automatically converting the Morse code pulses to the corresponding five-unit "Baudot" (Teletype) code pulses and feeding these to a teleprinter. Thus, the Morse code output of a line or receiver is converted and then printed on a page at speeds limited only by the teleprinter. The converter will handle code speeds in the range of 10 to 600 words per minute, where signal-to-noise ratio is better than about two to one, and where interference on the channel is not serious enough to confuse the converter. The converter, a form of an electronic brain, copies behind so that it can shift and return the printer carriage as required by the copy. Speed of conversion can vary with input Morse signal in a ratio of ten to one without error in conversion. About 150 electron tubes are involved in circuitry which predicts long life of tubes. FBIS personnel have observed the converter in operation, and two units have been ordered for use and study at the East Coast Bureau. [redacted]

50X1

15. Okinawa Construction: [redacted]

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- a. Housing construction under Project DU/I-156-54 is 70% complete.
- b. The underground power line extension to the operations site is 83% complete.
- c. Electronic wiring in the new monitoring wing addition is complete.
- d. Plans and specifications were completed by the Okinawa Engineer District for housing construction authorized under Project DU/I-172-55. Bids will be advertised soon.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

1. All Bureaus

a. Generally, non-Communist reaction reports have been well written and are appreciated. [redacted]

50X1

b. Bureaus processing annual Communist plan fulfillment reports are to be commended for the excellent manner in which this year's reports were handled. [redacted]

50X1

2. London Bureau

a. East European and Soviet Review writers are cautioned against indefinite antecedents of relative pronouns. "The Home Service broadcasts a Zhukov commentary which dwells upon ..." is better than "The Home Service broadcasts a Zhukov commentary in which he dwells upon...."

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3. Mediterranean Bureau

a. In copy emanating from Israeli transmitters it is suggested that complete proper names be provided when available--perhaps, if necessary, in the form of an Editor's Note. [redacted]

50X1

b. "Free Greece" translations constantly contain references to "conspiratorialism." Inasmuch as this is not an English word in regular use, it is hoped that a happier translation may be devised to convey the meaning of the original Greek. [redacted]

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4. West Coast Bureau

Editors should note the difference between "VNA" and "VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY" in Viet Minh copy. "VNA" is a sending and receiving transmitter and not necessarily an abbreviation for the agency. It is important that field editors include call letters in logographs, even though they are not printed in the Daily Report. Editors, also should not change the land measure "mau" to the Chinese word "mou" in Vietnamese copy. [redacted]

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5. Okinawa Bureau

a. The bureau's performance in processing such lengthy items as the Draft Conscription Law and the PEOPLE'S DAILY editorial on the law is greatly appreciated. [redacted]

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b. The quantity of Indian economic briefs should be reduced; items on a state rather than a national basis may be omitted unless they deal with information on Target Lists. Fuller processing of Pakistani political items appearing on Target Lists is desired. [redacted]

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6. Tokyo Bureau

The bureau's compilations of lists of election candidates and Diet members were warmly welcomed by interested users and area editors. [redacted]

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7. Hokkaido Bureau

[redacted]

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RADIO PROPAGANDA COM. NT

1. Kyrenia and London made excellent and substantial contributions to a typescript report on Soviet broadcasts for South Asia prepared on USIA request. All bureaus contributed to a roundup of foreign radio reaction to the AEC release on radioactive fallout. A London analysis section paper was utilized in a Propaganda report on policy differences among Hungarian leaders. [redacted]

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2. Other reports described the treatment of Indonesia and Latin America in Communist propaganda, the presentation of the United States to the Soviet home audience, and propaganda anticipating the Bangkok conference. Typescript papers summarized observations on the antecedents and implications of Malenkov's resignation, the Communist view of the Ngo Dinh Diem government (for DD/P) and Soviet propaganda treatment of Western agents since 1954 (for State). [redacted]

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3. Quite frequently bureaus file significant Soviet news reports from another language than that of the subject area. It will save Branch queries and subsequent rechecking if on their initiative bureaus also report the presence or absence of these items in the pertinent beam. For example, was a report that Turkey nurtures aggressive designs on Iranian Azerbaijan, filed from a Swedish-language broadcast, also carried in Persian? Similar information is required for significant TASS reports. [redacted]

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ADMINISTRATION

The following FBIS issuances have not previously been reported:

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Distribution	F2
"	F2
"	F2
"	F2
"	F2
"	F3
"	F3
"	F2
"	F3
"	F2
"	F6 (Dept.)
"	F6 (Dept.)
"	F6 (Dept.)
"	F3
"	F3
"	F3

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PERSONNEL CHANGES

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1. New Employees:

Assignment:

Editorial Branch

East Coast Bureau

Editorial Branch

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2. Separations

From:

Clerk, Engineering Staff

Clerk-Typist, Radio Propaganda Branch

Prop Anal Officer, Radio Propaganda
Branch

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